In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS No. 22-0158V

NANOYA BURGAN,

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: July 16, 2025

Petitioner,

٧.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Bruce William Slane, Law Office of Bruce W. Slane, P.C., White Plains, NY, for Petitioner.

Michael Bliley, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

On February 15, 2022, Nanoya Burgan filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, $et\ seq.^2$ (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a left shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA"), a defined Table injury, or in the alternative a caused-in-fact injury, after receiving an influenza ("flu") vaccine on October 23, 2020. Petition at 1, ¶¶ 2, 29-30. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On May 21, 2025, I issued a ruling on entitlement, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for her SIRVA. ECF No. 37. On July 16, 2025, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer") indicating Petitioner should be awarded \$45,021.32, representing \$45,000.00 for pain and suffering and \$21.32 for past unreimbursable expenses. Proffer at 1-2. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees

¹ Because this Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet. In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2018).

with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of \$45,021.32, representing \$45,000.00 for pain and suffering and \$21.32 for actual unreimbursable expenses, to be paid through an ACH deposit to Petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to Petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran Brian H. Corcoran Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

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IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

NANOYA BURGAN,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 23-158V Chief Special Master Corcoran ECF

RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On February 15, 2022, Nanoya Burgan ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 ("Vaccine Act" or "Act"), alleging that she suffered a Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration ("SIRVA"), as defined in the Vaccine Injury Table, following administration of an influenza vaccine she received on October 23, 2020. Petition at 1. On May 21, 2025, the Court found petitioner entitled to compensation. ECF No. 39.1

I. Items of Compensation

A. <u>Pain and Suffering</u>

Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$45,000.00 in pain and suffering. See 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(4). Petitioner agrees.

¹ Respondent has no objection to the amount of the proffered award of damages set forth herein. Assuming the special master issues a damages decision in conformity with this proffer, respondent waives his right to seek review of such damages decision. However, respondent reserves his right, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(e), to seek review of the special master's June 27, 2025, entitlement decision

B. <u>Past Unreimbursable Expenses</u>

Evidence supplied by petitioner documents that she incurred past unreimbursable expenses related to her vaccine-related injury. Respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded past unreimbursable expenses in the amount of \$21.32. See 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a)(1)(B). Petitioner agrees.

These amounts represent all elements of compensation to which petitioner is entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case. Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment of \$45,021.32 to be paid through an ACH deposit to petitioner's counsel's IOLTA account for prompt disbursement to petitioner.² This lump sum payment represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

Respectfully submitted,

BRETT A. SHUMATE Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

HEATHER L. PEARLMAN Deputy Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

² Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future lost earnings and future pain and suffering.

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LARA A. ENGLUND Assistant Director Torts Branch, Civil Division

/s/ Michael S. Bliley
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Date: July 15, 2025